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Whites Creek Guardsman receives Bronze Star

NASHVILLE – Staff Sgt. Melvin S. Brown, Jr., a Metro policeman, was the recipient last week of the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service and outstanding achievement while serving with the Tennessee National Guard's 3rd Squadron, 278th Regimental Combat Team in Iraq. He is a resident of Whites Creek.

During an equipment recovery operation in March of 2005, Brown's Humvee gunner was struck by small arms fire. He cleared the kill zone, removed the soldier from the vehicle and carried him to cover, administering aid until relieved by medical personnel.

The Bronze Star citation states: "For meritorious service and outstanding achievement during the period 7 June 2004 through 21 April 2005 while serving as Squad Leader and Acting Platoon Leader Staff Sgt. Brown displayed unusual resourcefulness, tactical ability and mature judgment in the execution of many important missions."

Staff Sgt. Brown is now a member of the 130th Rear Area Operations Command which is making preparations to depart Saturday, May 26, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

PHOTO

Tennessee National Guard Staff Sgt. Melvin Brown, of Whites Creek, receives congratulations from Col. Wayne Honeycutt after being awarded the Bronze Star Medal in ceremonies May 19 in Smyrna. His current unit, the 130th Rear Area Operations Command, departs Saturday, May 26, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



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